(a) whether it is a fact that the airport in Kota City, Rajasthan is now no more safe and appropriate for flight services due to development of dense localities around it;

(b) whether any new place has been identified for construction of a new airport at Kota; and

(c) by when new airport in Kota will be constructed and placed on aviation map?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. However, the growth of dense localities around the airport has affected the expansion/upgradation of the airport for any higher category of aircraft operation.

(b) and (c) The State Government had identified few sites, which were inspected by Airports Authority of India (AAI) but not found suitable. An alternative site was suggested by the AAI to which the State Government's response is awaited.

Cancellation of flight by Air India

451. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Air India flight from Delhi to Dubai was cancelled on 30 October, 2009; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Debts of airlines

452. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present status of debts of each airline;

(b) the comparative details thereof during the last three years;

(c) the exact reasons for such debts of airlines; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected.

Plan for restructuring of Air India

453. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been formulating a comprehensive restructuring plan for Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the said plan Government is also considering the issue of procurement of the new planes already ordered by the Air India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The financial and organizational restructuring Plan for Air India focuses on operational efficiency, product improvement and organizational revamp. The plan envisages manpower cost rationalization, fuel management, route profitability enhancement and non-traffic revenue enhancement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Air India has rescheduled delivery of 3 Boeing 777-300ER aircrafts beyond 2010 and 27 B-787 aircrafts beyond the contracted delivery period commencing April, 2011. It is also proposed to lease out 3 new 777-200LR aircrafts.

Violations by flying aircrafts

454. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what has been concrete advantages of strengthening of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) vigilance supervisory role in detecting more than three thousands violations by the flying aircrafts during five months till September;

(b) whether Government was able to convince the US Federal Aviation Administration that Indian aviation continues to retain its top billing due to massive steps taken to strengthen the regulator so that it completes its target of 4,300 surveillance activities during 2009; and

(c) what is the number of violations committed by public sector Air India and other private airlines and foreign airlines which operated in Indian skies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Strengthening Directorate General of Civil Aviation's surveillance capabilities has resulted in ensuring stricter compliance of regulations, improvement in safety oversight and enhancement of safety of operations. Out of a total of 4,327 surveillance activities planned for the year 2009, about 2545 surveillance activities have been carried out till 1st September, 2009.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While 289 deficiencies were found in operations of Air India (unified), private airlines and foreign airlines operating in Indian sky, accounted for 660 and 15 deficiencies respectively.